

Moran Thomas, (651)

Dingmans Ferry
Pike Co. Pa.

Aug 1. 1875

Aug 4/75.

Encloses money to pay
Williams htr,

✓

Recd & Ansd
Aug 4/75

Stingmans Ferry
Pike Co.
Penn
Aug 1st / 75

Mr. W. MacLeod. Curator.
Concoran Cal.

Dear Sir

Your note enclosing Mr Williams
Bill was received but a few days
ago as I have been moving about
the Country for some time &
have not received letters with
an regularity. Enclosed please
find the amt of Bill, which
please hand to him on first
convenient opportunity &
Obligie

Yours &c
T. Moran

Money recd - in letter of July 13th

Recd & ack:
Aug 4/75
Recd: Aug 5/75

Phila. August 2nd 1875

To the Curator of the
Carnegie Art Gallery

Dear Sir,

Enclosed please find
One dollar ²⁰/₁₀₀ the amt of
Mr. Stetman bill for charges
&c.

Very respectfully
L. St Morris

Moore St. St. (652)

Phila; Aug 2/75
Aug 3/75;

Encloses \$1.20 amt of
charges on Mr Witman's
picture.



(653)

Nichols J. Nickle,

British Museum, London

Aug 4/75.

July 22, 1875.

Offers a painting, the
"Judgment of Paris" by Rubens
for sale, price 4,000 guineas
perhaps 3,000 guineas.



Gallery of Paintings.

4th Recd. Aug 4. 1875
Ans'd. Aug. 5/75

W. W. Corcoran, Esq.

Washington, D.C.

United States.

T. Nickle Nichols.



Mr

I submitted this to Mr R. -
 Please ack. receipt as handed in by Mr C.
 and say that the Com. on works of art
 have considered the matter and have
 determined not to make purchases
 of the works of the old masters -
 or something to that effect. Truly
 at Yps

Wm MacLeod

4 Aug

"Let it be given to the most beautiful."

Egidius Hendricx to D. Jacob Duarte,
a distinguished member of the household of the
King of England; eminent for his encouragement
of the pictorial art, and possessing, among many
things, the original tablet of this; (~~seventeen~~ ^{hundred} ²)

Pet. Paul Rubens, painter,

A. Lommelin, engraver

The size of the picture is 6 feet 3 inches
by 5 feet 1 inch. There are a few
original documents relating to the picture,
and many others would be found amongst
our national archives. But the picture
itself is a sufficient guarantee of its
authenticity, which has been attested over
and over again by eminent connoisseurs;
and it has been declared to be by far the
finest Judgment of Paris painted by Rubens,
and, in all probability, the original of
that subject painted by that master.

Besides the Rubens now offered there
are three other undoubtedly genuine
paintings by Rubens of the Judgment of Paris.
The best known is that which formerly belonged
to the Duke of Orleans, now in the National
Gallery, London; but of which there is no
contemporary engraving as there is in the case

of

Recd Aug. 24/75
Ans. " 5"

Dear Sir,

Desiring to offer to one of the
galleries in America a very fine
gallery picture by Rubens, I applied
to General Schenck our American
Minister, and he has been good
enough to recommend me to apply to
you.

The picture in question is the
Judgment of Paris painted by Rubens
for Duarte, who was Jeweller to
King Charles the first of England from
1635 to the end of the reign, when he
went abroad and was there living

W. W. Borcoran, Esq.
Washington, D.C.

at

British Museum,
London.

July 22nd 1875.

at the end of the Restoration.

Lommelin, the celebrated engraver, a friend of Duarte's engraved this same picture. There are two copies of the engraving in the British Museum (and one in a very early state) and a copy has descended with the painting. The inscription on the engraving runs: "Det'r pulcherrime.
"D. Iacobo D'arte nobili domestico Regis
"Anglie, singulari pictoria artis cultori,
"huius archetypi tabulam inter
"plurima possidenti L. M. D. C. Q. Egidivs
"Hendricx. Pet. Paul. Rubbens pinxit.
"A. Lommelin sculpsit."

After Duarte's death, the picture passed into the collection of a nobleman who resided in one of the Northern Italian States cities

d

of the Leguese States. It was bought of this nobleman by Mr Charles Grignon, a gentleman of great artistic culture, who resided for many years in Italy, and formed during the long Republican war with France, a large collection of paintings by the Old Masters. In 1816-17 Mr. Grignon consigned the Rubens with his other paintings to Mr. James C. C. Bell of the Tuscan Consulate 15 Angel Court, Pargnorton-street London. It was sent from Leghorn to Malta and thence to England, where it was purchased by Mr. Colville, and then by Mr. Freeman Roe of Bridgefield House Wandsworth, London, a connoisseur, and collector of many choice paintings, in whose family the painting has been for upwards of twenty years. Mr. F. Roe gave Guineas 2700 for it. His widow is now desirous of selling it, and she has requested me to negotiate the sale for her.

The

I have the honour to be,

Dear Sir,

Faithfully your servant,

T. Nickle Nichols

(Of the establishment of the
British Museum, Principal
Litharian's Sept. Author of
works on the Museum, Reading
room & several Collections; the
London University Catalogue; &c)

Address:

T. Nickle Nichols,
British Museum,
London.

653

of the Rubens now offered. Another
is, or was, at Madrid. And another,
very small, is in the Dresden
gallery. But they all differ from one
another, and from Lommelin's engraving;
whereas Lommelin's engraving agrees
in all particulars with the Rubens
now offered. This one contains two
Cupids more than the Rubens in
the English National Gallery; and there
are three Satyrs looking over a bank,
which are likewise additional. Paris
has his hat on, and his attitude
differs. Had the present picture been
in the market it certainly would have
had the choice over the one from the Orleans
Gallery

gallery, and for which our government
paid £4000 - some say 5000 £ -

It is in every way a magnificent
picture - deserving of a prominent
place in any National Gallery. It
is, moreover, in capital condition.

The price asked is guineas 4000 -
but I have no doubt I could, on a speedy
bargain, being concluded, obtain it for
3000 guineas.

If, therefore, you should think of
entering into a negotiation for it,
I should be glad to receive an early
intimation from you, as I am

Yrs.

instructed to sell to the first bidder;
and negotiations have been opened in
Russia and other foreign countries.

I shall be glad to give you every
information in my power concerning the
matter; and to give the utmost
facilities to any agent you may be
pleased to employ.

On General Schenk's recommendation
I have also offered the painting to Mr.
August Belmont of New York - in
order to save time. Probably you will
see no objection to interchanging views
with that gentleman on the subject.

✓

(654)

Doxie R. L.

Engineer's Office D. C.

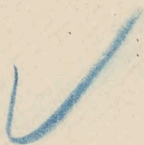
Aug 4/75,

Aug 4, 1875-

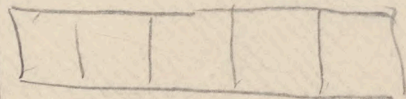
Direct attention to the
encroachment of Building
upon Alley.

Encloses plat of the Alley.

~~Letter to the Board of Commissioners~~



125



9524

No. 5443, Vol. E.O., 1875. 6

Engineer's Office, District of Columbia,

Washington, D. C. August 14th 1875.

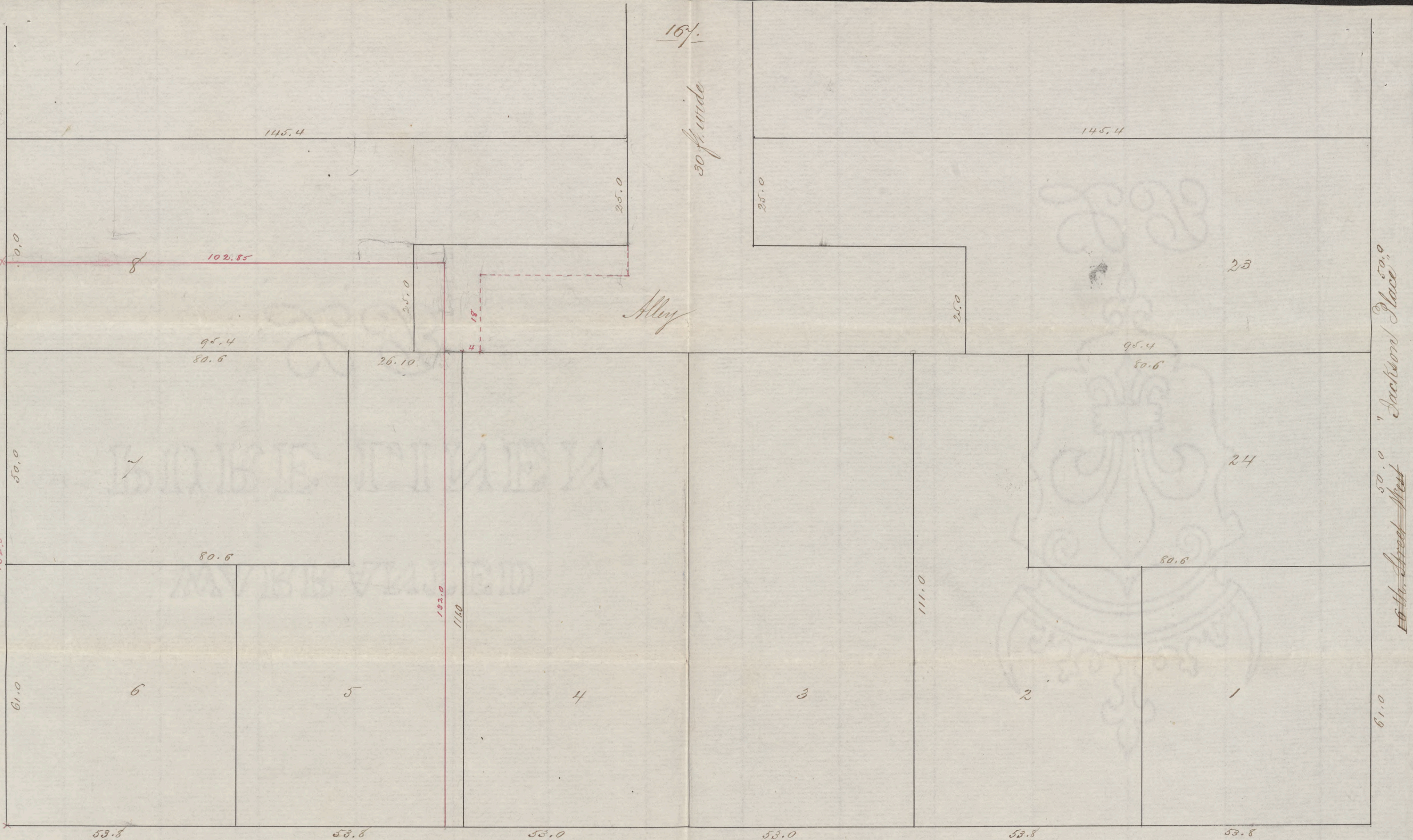
To the Trustees of the
Corcoran Art Building.
City.

Gentlemen:

I am directed by the Commissioners
of D.C. to invite your attention to the encroachment of
your building and fence in the Alley in Square No.
167 and to request that the obstruction be removed
at once. I enclose a copy of the plat of the alley.
Very respectfully,

R. L. Hoge
Lieut. Engineers U.S.A.
Engineer of D.C.

14th Street West



Solid red line represents the building
Dotted red line " " fence

July 31: 1875

Wm. H. Smith, President's Square
Surveyor & Platting

Moaguir, Miss M. A. (655)

Balt Aug 6. 1875.

Aug 7/75.

Request a copy of the
Photo. of the "Drobe at the
Ford." encloses \$1.



Recd. Aug 7/75

Cathedral St. Balto.
Aug. 6th. '75

Mr. Specter.
Sir,

Will you ^{be so} kind
kindness to send me the
"Cross at the Ford" - the
photograph - And I will
thank you.

Respectfully,

W. H. S. S. S.

The copy to Ed in Washington
will wait.

WHS

(656)

Stewart V. Foster,

1422 J. St. Washington
Residence 149 Carrollton Ave. Balto

Aug: 6. 1875-

Aug 7/75-

Authority to have Bust of
Pulaski removed from Capitol
and placed in Gallery,



Recd Aug. 7/75-

Ans'd. " "

No 1422 7. St Washington

Aug: 6. 1875.

Wm. MacLeod Esq

Curator Corcoran Art Gallery.

Dear Sir

In my letter of
2nd inst. I respectfully declined yr
request to have the Pulaski bust
removed from the Crypt of the Capitol
to your gallery for view by the Ins-
tutes, and exhibition should they con-
clude not to purchase; but a view
of it this morning for the first time
for a year or more shows me that
it is more disadvantageously located
than I thought, and that your suggestion

is a good one. With your permission
I will therefore reconsider my declina-
-tion, and authorize you to have the
said bust of Pulaski removed by
Mr Clark the Architect of the Capitol
with that expense to us, as stated in
your letter to me, to the Curran
Art Gallery, where it will of
course be held subject to our order
should we meet with a purchaser
other than your trustees.

Very Respectfully
Jos. J. Stewart

Attorney for the same
Mr. H. Kalousinski

P.S. My residence is No 149 Carrollton Ave
Baltimore Md.

Walters H. J.

(657)

Balt: Aug 11/75;

Aug 12/75;

The Pinchart things have
not arrived.

Mr MacLeod to order anything
he & Mr Rigg think proper.
Write about the David Burr
at once,

✓

can be got but it
will illustrate middle
age and about that
period —

Why do you
not write abouee
to Elington for any
explanation you require,

Order any thing
you and Mr. Higgs deci-
- de — but you know
I have never been an
advocate of getting
things merely to fill
up — if there any

Busts you know to be
good and interesting
ade them — so of any
statue if you know it
to be good — of course
the one you refer to
is fine if you doubt
think we have given
space enough to the
Parthenon thing — you
must remember the
Gallery is for all
time and very soon
room will be the cry.
I don't say that
I ordered all the fine
Busts — I know I did
not — but I did make

on the spot a careful
selection — So do you
and Mr. Higgs and and
I will be perfectly satis-
fied —

The Tulaaki
must wait keep — no
hurry about it if they
refuse to send it —

But by all means
write to Brucecum
about the David Bush,
at once

Yours
W. J. Walters

Recd. Illand

Aug. 12th / 75

657

Balto 11th Aug 75

Mr MacLeod I was about
when your letter came

The Ruehart
thing which you refer
has not arrived and
will for some time

I have not
a list of the coats to
come from Paris and will
have I put until bill
comes — it is always
difficult to find what

McGuire F B.

(658)

Wilton Aug 13/75:
Aug 16/75:

Mr (McGuire thinks
the Busts & Torso should
be purchased,

✓

GORGORAN GALLERY OF ART,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Return, if not called for in 5 days.

Gilman Wm J. (659)
Balt. Aug 14. 1875.

Aug 16/75.

Has three pictures for
sale.



Recd &
Ans! Aug 16/75.
Baltimore
Aug 14th 1875
To the Agent of the Corcoran
Art Gallery
Dear Sir

I have three
very fine pictures for
sale and was advised
to write to you in regard
to them.

The largest
which is seven feet high
and five feet wide is
The "Assumption of the
Virgin" which represents
a life size Roman
standing on the moon
with Angels around
her. supposed to be by
Guido Ranie. over

The second one is a
"Romans head," in the
Cartoon at the Death
of Ananias

By Raphael

Third is the "Repose
in Egypt." By Francisco
Albani.

If you are
buying any pictures
at present and will
come to Baltimore
I shall take great
pleasure in showing
them to you.

The pictures
are from the Collection
of the late Robert
Gilmor purchased
by himself in Europe
and have been in

possession of our family
for about three fourths
of a Century. I will
be most happy to
hear from you ^{and give} any
information in regard
to the pictures

Yours very Respt
J. S. Gilmor

S. W. Cor of Pleasant & St Paul

"Wilton" Aug 13th.

Dear Sir

Recd Aug 16th

Father

requests me to write &
say he thinks the list
of Busts & the Tools of
Iris. should be purchased.
& agree with you, as to
the value of the Busts
for the Gallery. Must be

J. B. M. G. G. G.

Wm MacLeod
Curator

Stevens Henry,

(660)

St. Memin

London May 23/75;

Relating to the Photographs
of distinguished men,
St. Memins Engravings.

✓

The Library of Congress, Washington

11 Trafalgar Square
London May 20. 1874

Bought of Henry Stevens for Messrs Geo W. Riggs & Co.

St Memins Volume of 818 Portraits of Americans.

engraved by St Memin in New York, Philadelphia, Burlington, Baltimore, Washington &c. between 1793 & 1812. almost all of them the artists' own proofs reserved for himself. The collection represents the chief persons of the Land, civil & political, Ladies & Gentlemen, including Washington, Jefferson, and many Members of Congress. Arranged and laid down with Index, in a large oblong folio by the Venerable Artist, who on his return to France, was by Napoleon appointed director of the Public Museum of Dijon, which important post he held till 1852, when he died at the age of 92. leaving this Volume to his family. For particulars respecting St Memin See The Memoirs of the Academy of Sciences of Dijon.

400 Guineas . . . £ 420...

10 per cent discount . . . 42. . .

£ 378. . .

Henry Stevens

Mr. Stevens' letters &c.
relating to the Photos
of distinguished men

3485



Bibliography.

W. W. Corcoran Esq
Washington,

My Dear Sir,

Vermont House HENRY STEVENS
13 Upper Avenue Road, NW.
+ Trafalgar Square, Charing Cross & Co

LONDON March 17 1885

(6)

On the 3^d of January last I wrote to Mr Under-
secretary of State John Davis, informing him, among other things, that
I possessed a fine original oil painting of Dr Franklin,
half length, life size, painted in Paris by Duplessis and
presented by Franklin himself in 1782 to his old friend
William Hodgson of Coleman Street, London; and inquired
of Mr Davis if the State Department possessed such an original
portrait, or if there was one at the Capitol or in the
Corcoran Gallery.

Mr Davis in reply on the 21st of January wrote me as follows:-
In reply I have to state that this Department does not possess
an original portrait of Benjamin Franklin, and that I am not
aware of there being one either at the Capitol or the Corcoran
Gallery. I would be glad to know if the interesting painting
by Duplessis of which you write, is the same as that which
was for some time in the possession of a German gentleman
at Dresden."

Since the receipt of Mr Davis' letter I have been ill
and done nothing more in the matter. I now write to

to you to say that the portrait is for sale, and that the lowest net price is 200 guineas delivered in London, I should very much prefer to have it follow my "Franklin Collection" sold to the Congress for the State Department in 1882 and have therefore by the last post offered to Mr Bayard the presumption if he was disposed to treat for it without much delay. At the same time I informed Mr Bayard that I should offer it to you and the Library of Congress, on the same terms.

in case he did not care at once to secure it for the State Department. I sent Mr Bayard a photograph of the picture, the only one I have, but I will try to get another to send you. If you are disposed to treat for it, I presume you can see the photo, sent to Mr Bayard, or I will try and procure another for you.

The portrait is in excellent condition, in old carved oak gilt frame, and under plate glass. On the back in an old hand is this inscription "This Picture of Dr Franklin was painted at Paris 1782 & was presented by him to Mr Wm Hodgson of Colman Street as a token of his Regard and Friendship."

I suppose that you are aware that this William Hodgson was a London Merchant of some literary and scientific eminence. He was a member of Franklin's Club for some years before Franklin left London in March 1775. He was a warm friend of America all through the Revolutionary War, and the two friends, all the time Franklin was in Paris

kept up a friendly correspondence. Hodgson at the instigation of Franklin rendered many important services to the American prisoners in England and distributed among them the funds supplied by Franklin. The story is partly told in Sparks's Franklin, Vol IX page 15. And in Vol X page 50 is a characteristic letter from Franklin to the President of Congress from Paris 26 Dec. 1783, recommending Mr Hodgson as Consul in London.

Of all the many portraits of Franklin it is admitted, I believe, that Duple's is the best. The artist made several originals or replicas. There can be no question as to the genuineness and authenticity of this. It came into my possession by purchase early in 1882 from Mr Graves the eminent dealer in pictures and engravings. It is barely possible, but I think hardly probable that it is the same painting as that referred to by Mr Davis as being formerly in Dresden.

This letter, *mutatis mutandis*, is the same as that sent on Saturday last to Mr Bayard.

Awaiting your reply I remain
My dear Sir, Yours faithfully,

Henry Stevens government.

518 H. 11
A. R. Spofford Esq
4 Trafalgar Square, W.C. London
May 23. 1874
Library of Congress, Washington. 537435
1833.30 = 2.25 & a. m. m. m.

Dear Sir,

By the Section of today from Liverpool go two cases, lined with tin, marked, numbered and addressed ISI#1960 and 1961 Messrs Baldwin Bros 72 Broadway New York containing the rare books, as per inclosed large invoice, Numbered from 1 to 144, amounting to
A £440. 1.0. Also the volume of St Memin portraits (in ISI#1961) as per annexed invoice
B of £420. - - I have also directed Messrs Baldwin Bros to send you case ISI#1965 as per invoice annexed
C to £115. 10. As they are all old Books, and duty free except No 49 my Billiotheca Geographica, illustrata. I have directed Baldwin's to clear and forward the cases by you as soon as possible. I have paid insurance and all charges through to New York, leaving Baldwin's to collect of you only the clearance & Customhouse charges with the expense paid from New York to Washington. The invoices will, I trust, speak for themselves, but I cannot help commenting to your consideration the extraordinary series of Early English Bibles. The King & I have united a great deal together of late years. In these volumes you have the results of our united experience. The Books in America are always in demand, and never more so than now. They are going up like balloons.

As to St Memin's portraits, this collection is unique & has attracted great attention here of late in the print-room of the British Museum both as to the quality and exceeding beauty of the engravings, as well as the process by which so exquisite an effect was produced. The portraits were very much admired. There is not a single specimen of St Memin's work in the Museum. St Memin was accustomed to give an original drawing in red chalk, the engraved plate reduced, and 12 impressions for the moderate sum of £35. Between 1793 & 1810 or 1812 he produced above 820 of these portraits representing the choice heads of our country at that time. Of course from the nature of the transactions these plates & few impressions were scattered all over the Country in the hands of private individuals. Such a thing as a collection was not thought of till too late. This volume of 818 heads contains a single impression in proof of each plate which the artist reserved for himself & took home & framed with him about 1812. He was soon after restored to power by Napoleon and appointed Director of the Public Museum of Dijon.

1770

a spot which he held till his death in 1851 at the advanced age of 92. Shortly afterwards this collection came into my hands. The price which I place upon it of four hundred guineas (£420.) is considered by me, and many others here, as reasonable. As it contains portraits of the first families in America, & especially many distinguished early members of Congress and the Government, the Library of Congress seems the appropriate place for it. If then you decide to have the Collection you may arrange to pay Messrs Riggs for it. I will write them about it by next mail, with duplicate forms &c. leaving them to settle particulars with you. In case you decide not to keep the volume I shall be glad if you will return it to me here with as little delay as possible. Through Messrs Baldwin Bros. No. 72 Broadway New York.

I trust Annals C. £115. 10. will interest you. though some of the sixts may be duplicates. Take what you like and I will at once give directions for the disposal of those lots you do not care to retain. No 5 Thornaby Leeds. is an interesting volume. having long been in Virginia, in the Fairfax family. & the numerous blank leaves bound in it being used as an Album Amicorum. Among the autographs you will find that of Samuel Washington.

I hope you have not forgotten my two collections of English Pamphlets. the one in five covers sent from Albany in 1869 and the other in 13 covers sent from here in June 1871. I have no doubt you have proposed so far in the examination that you will willingly now reward my patience by paying to Riggs the £150. on account. I inclose a bill or invoice, marked D for this purpose. I leave you to arrange matters with Riggs &c. only reminding you now that money will be particularly acceptable to me this season.

Lest you may have lost sight of my original invoice of the English pamphlets of 1 June 1871 (3 years ago) I enclose a copy of it, and commend it to your consideration.

I venture to dare to send to you enclosed a thin paper copy of my little pocket manual "American Ports with tails to 1000"

It is very imperfect. It has already paid for itself by systemizing my
B Museum "Continuations". I have nearly done it in my MS. additions -
I am now doing much more carefully "The English Books with tails to run"
or some other such silly name, comprising all the periodicals, serials, Academies,
Clubs, societies &c. &c. in that any publisher that have tails to run, or require
lookings after when once you have entered the first volume. &c. or part. This
list will, I think, amount to about 16,000 lines, a single title to a line, 50 on a page

Also I have on the anvil a similar one-line list (bulletin in a line, pearl type)
of The American Legal Legislative Books, including the U.S. and all the States.
probably about 8000 or 9000 titles. Another The Bibles & parts thereof
in all languages (mixed) in chronological order, with titles, places, printers,
date & size, from 1450 to 1700, in about 15000 lines of 64 letters, 50
lines on a page, same as little book enclosed - but every line full.

How many copies of each will you publish for, at reasonable prices.

Years ago I sold you a copy of Farmers Jesuite Missionary in
German, Raze, 1683. plus. I have just turned up the engraving plate
and it strikes me that it must have come from the copy sold you, if so
may place it where it belongs. I enclose it - It is rare.

Hoping to hear from you soon I remain

My Dear Sir

Yours truly

Henry Stevens

I rec'd last week a note from you
asking for my Bibliotheca
Geographica, Part. II. with Geographical
Introduction - It has never appeared.
& probably never will in that form.
though I am hammering out the
subject in a side anvil and may let it
appear in some other form - I will in my next send you a large
paper copy for reading.

Bought of Henry Stevens for Messrs Geo. W. Riggs & Co.

St Memins Volume of 818 Portraits of Americans.

engraved by St Memin in New York, Philadelphia, Burlington, Baltimore, Washington &c. between 1793 & 1812. almost all of them the artists' own proofs reserved for himself. The collection represents the chief persons of the Land, civil & political, Ladies & Gentlemen, including Washington, Jefferson, and many Members of Congress. Arranged and laid down with Index, in a large oblong folio by the Venerable Artist, who on his return to France, was by Napoleon appointed director of the Public Museum of Dijon, which important post he held till 1852, when he died at the age of 92. leaving this Volume to his family. For particulars respecting St Memin see the Memoirs of the Academy of Sciences of Dijon.

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Henry Stevens